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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.   
TOPIC Guard Detail at the State Secretariat for State Security

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EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED 

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 30 October 1953REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 

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1. On 28 September 1953, the guard unit of the State Secretariat for State Security, also referred to as Guard Battalion Potsdam, was located in Potsdam. The unit had the mission of guarding the State Secretariat for State Security (SfS) and high functionaries of this office and of preventing demonstrations, sabotage acts, espionage, and activities by agents.
2. Officers assigned to the guard battalion included:
  - Lieutenant Colonel Wagner (fnu), of the SfS Bezirk Administration;
  - Lieutenant Colonel Koenig (fnu), of the SfS Bezirk Administration;
  - Captain Hellwig (fnu), commanding officer of the guard battalion;
  - Lieutenant Singer (fnu), PK officer;
  - Senior Lieutenant Raschmann (fnu), chief of staff.
3. The guard battalion consisted of a headquarters company of 60 to 70 men, and two companies of about 100 men each. The personnel of the battalion were from 19 to 25 years old. Additional officers assigned to the battalion included:
  - Lieutenant Rudolf (fnu), supply officer;
  - Junior Lieutenant Lampe (fnu), chief of the personnel department;
  - Lieutenant Steinbach (fnu), commanding officer of the 1st Co;
  - Junior Lieutenant Geva (fnu), commanding officer of the 2nd Co;
  - Junior Lieutenant Rotkirch (fnu), PK officer of the 2nd Co;
  - Lieutenant Engmann (fnu), previously PK officer of the 1st Co, had been transferred.
4. The following installations were guarded by the battalion in Potsdam:
  - Guard house, 1 NCO, 13 EM;
  - military prison, 1 NCO, 12 EM (chief of the prison was Senior Lieutenant Rose (fnu), his deputy was Senior Lieutenant Witte (fnu);

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SfS Bezirk Administration at 8-9 Hegelallee, 1 NCO, 10 EM (chief of the Bezirk Administration was Lieutenant Colonel Wagner (fnu), his adjutant was Lieutenant Kuhn (fnu), chief of the personnel department was Major Lavatschke (fnu); motor pool (?) in Babelsberg, 1 NCO, 5 EM.

5. Installations outside of Potsdam guarded by the battalion included: Military prison and Bezirk Administration in Frankfurt on the Oder River, 1 officer, 2 NCOs, and 22 EM, relieved every two weeks; Felix Dzerzhinski Bezirk Party School in Eberswalde, 1 officer, 2 NCOs, 12 EM relieved every two weeks. SfS candidates were trained at the school which was headed by one Engmann (fnu) and was attended by about 150 students ranking from NCO to lieutenant colonel; Schloss Seehaus on Lake Lanke, east of Loewenberg in Mecklenburg, a rest house reserved for high ranking party leaders and government officers, 1 NCO, 5 EM, relieved every two weeks.
6. The members of the guard battalion wore red-bordered red collar patches and red-bordered epaulets. The NCO candidates of the guard battalion were trained at the NCO school in Halle on the Saale River.

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Comment.

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The guard battalion of the EVDVP and a guard battalion of the former Ministry for State Security are stationed in the capital of each Bezirk. It appears that the guard battalions were redesignated **Bereitschaften**.

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